

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

Claims 1-52 (canceled)

Claim 53 (currently amended): A data transmission method used between an image providing device and a target device which are connected by a serial bus, the method comprising the steps of:

setting, in communication between the image providing device and the target device, a PULL method as a data transfer method to pull data from the image providing device based on control of the target device, in accordance with a first request issued by the image providing device;

controlling readout of the data from the image providing device in accordance with a second request issued by the target device when the PULL method is set;

The method according to claim 52, further comprising the steps of:

locking a data resource of the target device on the image providing device before said setting step;

transferring the data between the image providing device and the target device, wherein the target device does not accept control from any device except for the image providing device in said transferring step; and

releasing the lock of the data resource of the target device in accordance with a third request issued by the image providing device after said transferring step.

Claim 54 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[52]] 53, wherein the image providing device comprises a digital camera.

Claim 55 (canceled)

Claim 56 (currently amended): A communication apparatus connected to a device which provides an image, comprising:

a communication section, arranged to perform bi-directional communication with the device;

a setting section, arranged to set a PULL method as a data transfer method to pull data from the device based on control of said apparatus, in accordance with a first request issued by the device, in the communication with the device; and

a readout section, arranged to issue a second request to control readout of the data from the device when the PULL method is set The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein said setting section locks a data resource of said apparatus on the device before the transfer method is set, and releases the lock of the data resource after the data transfer is completed.

Claim 57 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[55]] 56, wherein said readout section controls the readout of the data in accordance with a print command

issued by the device.

Claim 58 (canceled)

Claim 59 (currently amended): An image providing device connected to a target device, comprising:

a communication section, arranged to perform bi-directional communication with the target device;

an issuing section, arranged to issue a first request so that the target device sets a PULL method as a data transfer method to pull data from said image providing device based on control of the target device; and

a transmitter, arranged to transmit the data to the target device in accordance with a second request issued by the target device after the PULL method is set ~~The image providing device according to claim 58,~~ wherein said issuing section issues the first request after a data resource of the target device is locked on said image providing device, and the lock of the data resource of the target device is released after the data transfer is completed.

Claim 60 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[58]] 59, wherein the target device controls readout of the data in accordance with a print command issued by said issuing section.

Claims 61-62 (canceled)